

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9, 2012, in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Baxter, Gilbert, Greenberg,
Hays, Ning, and Chairperson Taniguchi.

Absent: Commissioner Mayeda.

Also Present: Community Services Director Jones, Senior Business
Manager Minter, Recreation Services Manager Brunette,
Park Services Manager Carson, and Senior Recreation
Supervisor Kaemerle.

MOTION: Commissioner Hays moved to grant Commissioner Mayeda an excused absence for the May 9, 2012 Commission meeting. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Park Services Manager Carson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Gilbert moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Ning seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Mayeda).

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2012

Commissioner Gilbert offered the following corrections: Page 1, 7A. "APPROVAL OF THE NON-PROFIT SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCIES 2010-2011 FINANCIAL & NARRATIVE STATEMENTS" and Page 2, paragraph 2, "MOTION: Commissioner Baxter moved for the approval of the non-profit social services agencies 2010-2011 financial and narrative statements."

MOTION: Commissioner Hays moved for the approval of the April 11, 2012 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes as amended. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Mayeda).

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

Torrance Youth Council representatives Minji Kim from CAMS and Anna Spallino from South High introduced themselves.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7A. ACCEPT DONATION FROM DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB

Recreation Services Manager Brunette requested that the Commission accept a \$1,000 donation from the Dog Obedience Club of Torrance and that it be used for the dog waste bag program. He noted that the grand total to date of Dog Obedience Club donations, including the most recent donation, is \$37,835.

Commissioner Hays and Chairperson Taniguchi commended the Dog Obedience Club for their generous donations and continued support since 1958.

MOTION: Commissioner Ning moved to accept a \$1,000 donation from the Dog Obedience Club of Torrance and that it be used entirely for the dog waste bag program. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Mayeda).

7B. 2012 NOMINATIONF FOR THE 55TH ANNUAL AWARDS

Commissioner Hays, Chairperson of the Programs Committee, reported that the Programs Committee has met twice to plan the July 11 Annual Awards Dinner at the Toyota Automobile Museum. He stated that the Committee has selected the theme, food, and timeline for the event. He encouraged Commissioners to solicit nominations for Awards to an individual, an organization, and a staff member for their contributions toward enhancing the recreational, cultural, and educational opportunities available to Torrance residents. He stated that the deadline for nominations is June 1.

Community Services Director Jones noted that nomination forms, criteria, and 2011 Award nominees were included in Attachments A and B in agenda materials.

8. OLD BUSINESS

8A. PUEBLO PARK UPDATE

Community Services Director Jones reported that the Department did not obtain funding for Pueblo Park improvements from Round II of the Proposition 84 grant. He stated that there was \$150,000 available from Proposition A grant funding and recommended that it be used for new play equipment, picnic shelter rehabilitation, and a new pre-fabricated restroom for the park. He described the two properties of the park site and related the community's desire to have an open grass play space on the dirt lot portion of the parcel. He stated that staff is exploring a partnership with Exxon/Mobil to provide turf, irrigation, cement walkway, and six foot vinyl fencing. He estimated the cost for the total project to be \$400,000. He expressed hope that, once the park is completed, they can focus on improving the community center.

9. STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

9A. FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Has not met.

9B. GRANTS COMMITTEE

Has not met.

9C. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Has not met.

9D. PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Previously discussed in Item 7B.

10. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

10A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

Senior Business Manager Minter noted that the Administrative Services Division Report for April 2012 was included in agenda packets. He called attention to clean-up days held at several City parks as part of City Beautification Month. He noted the increase in picnic reservations and the positive results from adding El Retiro, Paradise, Victor and Walteria to the list of parks that offer picnic reservations. He pointed out that the Home Improvement Program has been busy and two new workers have been hired.

Chairperson Taniguchi, on behalf of the Sister City Association, expressed appreciation to staff for assisting in set-up and break-down of canopies for the Bunka Sai Festival.

10B. PARK SERVICES DIVISION

Park Services Manager Carson noted that the Park Services Division Report for April 2012 was included in agenda materials. He reported that a pest control contractor began a two month contract in early May to use two different products with spray indicators at 20 City parks and will come back in June for another round. Referring to Sea Aire Golf Course, he stated that they have potentially selected an architect and irrigation specialist to prepare design plans and specifications.

Commissioner Gilbert thanked staff for planting two Southern Magnolia Centennial trees at Wilson Park and Park Services Manager Carson stated that he hopes to have 50 trees planted in the next one to two months.

10C. RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

Recreation Services Manager Brunette noted that the Recreation Services Division Report for April 2012 was included in agenda packets. He highlighted trophies won by the Sync or Swim program and Torrettes Dance and Drill Team, the After School Club's Earth Day Bags project, the 2nd Annual Senior Prom, and the Department's Annual Volunteer Dinner on April 18. He expressed appreciation to Commissioners for

attending the Pancake Breakfast at the ATTIC and to Commissioner Greenberg for participating on the Beat the Odds Selection Committee. He distributed the Madrona Marsh Monthly Report for April.

Commissioner Greenberg stated that four applicants were chosen to receive the 16th annual Beat the Odds scholarships. She thanked the Commission for allowing her the opportunity to participate and noted how mature and exceptional the Youth Council members are.

In response to an inquiry by Commissioner Gilbert, Community Services Director Jones stated that the solar project for the Plunge would supplement the heating system.

11. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC #2

11A. Commissioner Baxter encouraged Commissioners to visit the USO booth and food tent during the May 19 Armed Forces Day Parade. He noted that the Grand Marshal is the Secretary of the Air Force Michael B. Donley who attended South High School.

11B. Commissioner Gilbert discussed a drive to raise donations for the USO event, thanked Park Services staff and Commissioner Ning for helping plant trees at Lago Seco Park, and expressed her appreciation to the Commission for allowing her to serve on the Youth Council selection committee.

11C. Community Services Director Jones reported on the May 8 Budget Hearing, noting that much discussion centered on CitiCABLE and the possibility of merging the Cultural Arts Commission with the Cable Television Advisory Board. He stated that there is a Commissioner Training this evening, with appointments expected on June 12. He encouraged Commissioners to attend the next Budget Hearing on May 15 when the Subsidy Plan will be considered.

11D. Recreation Services Manager Brunette stated that philosophical beliefs often translate into real dollars.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 7:55 p.m., Commissioner Hays moved to adjourn the meeting to June 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room. Commissioner Gilbert seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Taniguchi so ordered.

Approved as Submitted June 13, 2012 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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